

CRAFT BOOKS

AS DAMAGES

**Tale of a Beneficent \$8,000
Paid Out by Third Ave-
nue Railroad.**

IT WENT TO THE RIGHT SPOT

**\$250,000 of Other Kindnesses
to Politicians—Quigg as
Cash Carrier.**

An otherwise bald and unconvincing narrative, as Sir W. S. Gilbert might say, of \$8,000 paid to an unfortunate citizen who fell off the rear platform of a Third

avenue car, receiving upon his head certain contusions and abrasions, turned out before the legislative graft committee yesterday to be more or less verminiluminous—because, although there wasn't any such unfortunate citizen known to the attorney who received the check for him, the tale was adorned with such details as the number of the car from which he fell, the number of its trip for that day and many other instances, while the check for \$5,000 went to the treasurer of the State Railway Association, which main-

It was the most whimsical scene of any of the sessions of the graft committee. Mr. Vreeland had preceded the witness through whom the \$8,000 "accident check" story was told, and in the course of his testimony had said, explaining why in 1903 and 1904 and so on the railway companies with which he was connected had ceased political contributions:

"There was a general sentiment mani-

There was a general sentiment in New York State by legislative enactment, by publicity and so forth, against this practice, and it was decided that we would have no more to do with it, and since that time, to the best of my recollection, there have been no contributions."

ATTORNEY NEVER KNEW CLIENT.

Then the committee recalled as the next

witness Wm. W. Cole, the Philadelphia clubman and railway and electric engineer, who at one time resided in the tranquil town of Elmira, where he held among many other offices that of treasurer of the New York Railway Association. For a long time Judge Bruce conducted Mr. Cole's examination along calm and peaceful paths; the reporters had time to sharpen their pencils and now and then to swap a few shop stories. But pencils went to paper again instinctively when Judge Bruce, with just a little change in the tone of his examining voice, asked Mr. Cole, "You are not a lawyer, are you?" "No, sir," the witness replied, slightly.

Then Assistant Counsel Kresel slipped what looked like a check into the hands of Judge Bruce, who next asked the wit-

The witness did not recall anything of the kind. Mr. Kresel came forward softly and placed in Judge Bruce's hand a legal looking document and the witness was next asked: "Did you ever act as attorney for Charles Lankeman in any action against the Third avenue road which he met with an accident?"

The Philadelphian looked a little more surprised as he replied: "I have never

Q Then you never acted as attorney for Charles Lankeman to recover for any injuries which he received on the Third Avenue road? A No sir.

Q Did you ever receive any moneys from the Third Avenue Railroad for Charles Lankeman? A No sir.

Q Did you ever have any communication with any man by the name of Charles Lankeman? A Not to my knowledge.

Witness replying to questions said that he had never sent any receipts for any money he received for Lankeman and

Q Did you ever have any communication with the Third avenue road with reference to an injury Charles Lankeman had received? A No sir.

There were more questions answered a way to show that Charles Lankeman as Mrs. Harris to the witness, and then counsel directed attention to a copy of a letter wherein the witness in September, 1903, had acknowledged the receipt of \$500 from the Metropolitan Street Rail-

ny Company on account of the Third
ce Railroad Company. The witness
called having received such a sum and
thought that it was in the shape of a check.
He could not recall much else about it.
Judge Bruce read the face of the check,
showing that it was on the Columbia Bank
and made payable to "the order of Charles
Kemenan, or W. W. Cole, attorney."
Then he showed that it was indorsed:
W. W. Cole, attorney
Street Railway Association of the State
New York. W. W. Cole, treasurer.
Pay to the order of any bank or trust

pany. Prior indorsements guaranteed.
 Operating Canal Trust Company, Elmira,
 N. Y. E. J. Dunn, treasurer.
 Pay to the order of the Bank of the Man-
 hattan Company Knickerbocker Trust Com-
 pany. R. King, cashier.
 Manhattan Company, Third Teller, July

GREAT BEAR SPRING WATER